

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

In re: CATERPILLAR, INC., C13 and C15
ENGINE PRODUCTS LIABILITY
LITIGATION

Master Docket No. 14-3722 (JBS)(JS)
MDL No. 2540

**ORDER PRELIMINARILY APPROVING
CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT**

WHEREAS, Plaintiffs in this action entitled *In re Caterpillar Inc., C13 an C15 Engine Products Liability Litigation*, No., Master Docket No. 14-3722 (JBS)(JS) (the “Litigation”) and Defendant Caterpillar Inc., have entered into a Class Action Settlement Agreement (“Settlement Agreement” or “Agreement”), filed April 11, 2016, after substantial motion practice, discovery and lengthy arms-length settlement discussions;

AND, WHEREAS, the Court has received and considered the Agreement, including the accompanying exhibits, and the record in this Litigation;

AND, WHEREAS, the Plaintiffs have made an unopposed application, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e), for an order preliminarily approving the settlement of this Litigation, and for its dismissal with prejudice upon the terms and conditions set forth in the Settlement Agreement;

AND, WHEREAS, the Court has reviewed the Plaintiffs’ application and the supporting memorandum for such order, and has found good cause for same.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

The Class Is Preliminarily Certified

1. If not otherwise defined herein, all capitalized terms have the same meanings as set forth in the Agreement.

2. Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e), the Court certifies for the sole purpose of consummating the settlement of the Litigation in accordance with the Agreement the following Class: all persons in the United States who are original purchasers or original lessees, subsequent purchasers or subsequent lessees, (including but not limited to those having purchased via a TRAC option or some rights to residual purchase of vehicles at lease end) of a vehicle powered by a Subject Engine.¹ Excluded from the Class are Defendant, all present or former affiliates and/or directors of Defendant, the Judge of this Court, the Judge's family and staff, and all persons who have already made a timely and valid exclusion to be excluded from the Class in accordance with the provisions of the Notice of Pendency, all persons who have already released claims against Defendant for the relief provided herein, and all persons who will make a timely and valid election to be excluded from the Class in accordance with the provisions of the Notice. Settlement Class does not include persons or entities that have previously executed settlement releases concerning the Subject Engines. Such persons or entities that have previously executed settlement releases are specifically excluded from the Class.

3. This certification of the Class is made for the sole purpose of consummating the settlement of the Litigation in accordance with the Settlement Agreement. If the Court's grant of final approval does not become final for any reason whatsoever, or if it is modified in any material respect, this class certification shall be deemed void *ab initio*, shall be of no force or

¹"Subject Engine(s) or "Engine(s)" shall mean all EPA 2007 Compliant Caterpillar On Highway C13 and C15 engines (manufactured in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009) at issue in this Action, including the CRS components incorporated therewith.

effect whatsoever, and shall not be referred to or used for any purpose whatsoever, including in any later attempt by or on behalf of Class Representatives or anyone else to seek class certification in this or any other matter.

4. The Class meets all requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(a) and (b)(3) for certification of the class claims alleged in the operative complaint, including: (a) numerosity; (b) commonality; (c) typicality; (d) adequacy of the Class Representatives and Class Counsel; (e) predominance of common questions of fact and law Class; and (f) superiority.

5. Class Counsel and the Class Representatives are found to be adequate representatives of the Class pursuant to Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. The Court appoints the following as representatives of the Class: Ronald Bagley, Bailey Coach Inc., Brian Brown, BK Trucking Co., Leroy Bolton Trucking Co., David Brewer, Bryant's Transport, Inc., C&F Movers, Inc., Columbia Petroleum Transportation, LLC, DeCamp Bus Lines, Eagle Valley South, Inc., Easton Coach Company, Eclipse Charters & Tours, LLC, First Priority Tours, Inc., d/b/a First Priority Trailways, G&G Specialized Carriers, LLC, Gentry Coach Company, d/b/a Gentry Trailways, Harmon Brothers Charter Services, Inc., John Lamanteer, K Double D, Inc., Kelton Tours Unlimited LLC, Edward Charles McLean, MNS Enterprises, Inc., NW Navigator Luxury Coaches LLC, Roadrunner Charters, Inc., Salud Services, Inc. d/b/a Endeavor Bus Lines, S&M Mercado, Inc., German Saravia, Scenic Boundaries Trans., Inc., Tri-City Charter of Bossier, Inc., U.S. Transport, Vandalia Bus Lines, Inc., Ricky A. Williams, and Windy City Limos).

6. The Court also designates Shepherd, Finkelman, Miller & Shah, LLP, Cohen Milstein Sellers & Toll PLLC; Quantum Legal, LLC; Carella Byrne Cecchi Olstein Brody &

Agnello, P.C., whom the Court finds is experienced and adequate counsel having considered the factors set forth in Rule 23(g)(1), as Lead Class Counsel.

**The Settlement Agreement Is Preliminarily Approved and
Final Approval Schedule Set**

7. The Court hereby preliminarily approves the Agreement and the terms and conditions of settlement set forth therein, subject to further consideration at the Final Approval Hearing.

8. The Court has conducted a preliminary assessment of the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the Agreement, and hereby finds that the settlement falls within the range of reasonableness meriting possible final approval. The Court therefore preliminarily approves the proposed settlement as set forth in the Agreement.

9. Pursuant to of the Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23(e) the Court will hold a final approval hearing on **September 20, 2016**, at **10:00 a.m.**, in the Courtroom of the Honorable Jerome B. Simandle, Courtroom 4A, United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, 4th and Cooper Streets, Camden, NJ 08101 for the following purposes:

- a. determining whether the proposed settlement of the Litigation on the terms and conditions provided for in the Agreement is fair, reasonable and adequate and should be approved by the Court;
- b. considering the application of Class Counsel for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses as provided for under the Settlement Agreement;
- c. considering the application for service awards to the Plaintiffs as provided for under the Agreement;
- d. considering whether the Court should enter the Final Order Approving Settlement;

e. considering whether the release by the Class Members of the Released Claims as set forth in the Agreement and the Final Order should be provided; and

f. ruling upon such other matters as the Court may deem just and appropriate.

10. The Court may adjourn the Final Approval Hearing and later reconvene such hearing.

11. Any Class Member may enter an appearance in the Litigation, at his or her own expense, individually or through counsel. All Class Members who do not enter an appearance will be represented by Class Counsel.

12. The Parties may further modify the Agreement prior to the Final Approval Hearing so long as such modifications do not materially change the terms of the settlement provided therein.

13. The Court retains jurisdiction to consider all further applications arising out of connected with the proposed settlement. The Court may approve the Agreement with such modifications as may be agreed to by the Parties, if appropriate, without further notice to Class Members.

14. Pursuant to Section 3.A.i. of the Agreement, the Court orders Defendant to fund the first payment into the Escrow Fund within twenty (20) calendar days of the entry of this Order.

15. Opening papers in support of final approval of the Settlement Agreement and any application for attorneys' fees and expenses and/or Plaintiffs' service awards must be filed with the Court and served at least 21 days prior to the Final Approval Hearing. Reply papers, if any, must be filed and served at least 7 days prior to the Final Approval Hearing.

The Court Approves the Form and Method of Class Notice and Notice Plan

16. The Court approves, as to form and content, the proposed Long Form Notice and publication Notice (collectively the “Class Notice”), which are Exhibits D and E, respectively, to the Agreement on file with this Court.

17. The Court finds that the distribution of Class Notice substantially in the manner and form set forth in this Order and the Agreement meet the requirements of Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23 and due process, is the best notice practicable under the circumstances, and shall constitute due and sufficient notice to all Persons entitled thereto.

18. Pursuant to the Settlement Agreement, the Settlement Administrator, on behalf of the Defendant, will notify the appropriate federal and state officials of this Settlement Agreement as required by the Class Action Fairness Act (“CAFA”), 28 U.S.C. § 1715.

19. The Court approves the designation of Epiq Systems Class Action and Claims Solutions to serve as the Court-appointed Settlement Administrator for the settlement. The Settlement Administrator shall disseminate Class Notice and supervise and carry out the notice procedure, the processing of claims, and other administrative functions, and shall respond to Class Member inquiries, as set forth in the Agreement and this Order under the direction and supervision of the Court.

20. The Court directs the Settlement Administrator to establish a Settlement Website, making available copies of this Order, the Class Notice, Claim Forms that may be downloaded and submitted online or by mail, the Agreement and all exhibits thereto, and such other information as may be of assistance to Class Members or required under the Settlement Agreement.

21. The Settlement Administrator is ordered to institute the dissemination of the Class Notice as set forth in the Agreement, no later than 30 days after the Court enters this Preliminary Approval Order, including by direct mail, publication, internet publication and radio spots.

22. The costs of the Class Notice, processing of claims, creating and maintaining the Settlement Website, and all other Claims Administrator and Class Notice expenses shall be paid out of the Settlement Fund in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Agreement.

**Procedure for Class Members to
Participate In the Settlement**

23. Class Members who wish to claim a settlement award must submit their Claim Form and supporting documentation no later than 180 days after the date first set by the Court for the Final Approval Hearing. Such deadline may be further extended without notice to the Class by Court order, by agreement between the Parties, or as set forth in the Settlement Agreement.

Procedure for Requesting Exclusion from the Class

24. Any Person falling within the definition of the Class may, upon his or her request, be excluded from the Class. Any such Person must submit a request for exclusion to the Settlement Administrator postmarked or delivered no later than 45 days before the date first set for the Final Approval Hearing (the “Opt-Out Date”), as set forth in the Class Notice.

25. Any Class Member who does not send a signed request for exclusion postmarked or delivered on or before the Opt-Out Date will be deemed to be a Class Member for all purposes and will be bound by all further orders of the Court in this Litigation and by the terms of the settlement, if finally approved by the Court. The written request for exclusion must request exclusion from the Class, must be signed by the potential Class Member and include their email and mailing address, the Engine serial number, VIN of vehicle containing the Engine, and the

date of purchase and sale (if applicable), as well as a statement indicating that the Person desires to be excluded from the Class. All Persons who submit valid and timely requests for exclusion in the manner set forth in the Agreement shall have no rights under the Agreement and shall not be bound by the Agreement or the Final Judgment and Order.

26. A list reflecting all requests for exclusions shall be filed with the Court by Plaintiffs at or before the Final Approval Hearing.

Procedure for Objecting to the Settlement

27. Any Class Member who desires to object to the proposed settlement, including the requested attorneys' fees and expenses or service awards to the Plaintiffs must timely file with the Clerk of this Court a notice of the objection(s), together with all papers that the Class Member desires to submit to the Court no later than 30 days before the date first set for the Final Approval Hearing (the "Objection Date"). The objection must also be served on Class Counsel and Defendant's counsel no later than the Objection Date. The Court will consider such objection(s) and papers only if such papers are received on or before the Objection Date provided in the Class Notice, by the Clerk of the Court and by Class Counsel and Defendant's counsel. In addition to the filing with this Court, such papers must be sent to each of the following persons:

James C. Shah
SHEPHED, FINKELMAN, MILLER & SHAH, LLP
475 White Horse Pike
Collingswood, NJ 08107

Theodore J. Leopold
COHEN MILSTEIN SELLERS & TOLL PLLC
2925 PGA Boulevard, Suite 200
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
Telephone: (561) 515-1400
Email: tleopold@cohenmilstein.com

Richard J. Burke
QUANTUM LEGAL, LLC
513 Central Avenue, Suite 300
Highland Park, IL 60035
Telephone: (847) 433-4500
Email: rich@qulegal.com

James E. Cecchi
CARELLA, BYRNE, CECCHI, OLSTEIN, BRODY & AGNELLO
5 Becker Farm Road
Roseland, NJ 07068
Telephone: (973) 994-1700 Email:
JCecchi@carellabyrne.com

Counsel for Defendants

James H. Keale
SEDGWICK LLP
One Newark Center
1085 Raymond Boulevard, 16th Floor
Newark, NJ 07102
Telephone: (973) 242-0002
Email: james.keale@sedgwicklaw.com

Robert G. Abrams
BAKER HOSTETLER
Washington Square
1050 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 1100
Washington, D.C. 20036-5304
Telephone: (202) 861-1500
Email: rabrams@bakerlaw.com

The written objection must include: (a) a heading which refers to the Litigation; (b) the objector's name, address, telephone number and, if represented by counsel, of his/her counsel; (c) the approximate date(s) of his/her purchase, or lease (having purchased via a TRAC option or some rights to residual purchase of vehicles at lease end) of a vehicle powered by a Subject Engine and the serial number for the Subject Engine(s); (d) a statement whether the objector intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing, either in person or through counsel; (e) a statement of the objection and the grounds supporting the objection; (f) copies of any papers,

briefs, or other documents or evidence upon which the objection is based; (g) a statement of the number of class action settlements objected to by the Class member in the last three years and (h) the objector's signature.

28. Any Class Member who files and serves a written objection, as described in the preceding Section, may appear at the Final Approval Hearing, either in person or through counsel hired at the Class Member's expense, to object to any aspect of the fairness, reasonableness, or adequacy of this Agreement, including attorneys' fees. Class Members or their attorneys who intend to make an appearance at the Final Hearing must serve a notice of intention to appear on the Class Counsel identified in the Class Notice and to Defendant's counsel.

29. Any Class Member who fails to comply with the provisions of the preceding paragraph shall waive and forfeit any and all rights he or she may have to appear separately and/or to object, and shall be bound by all the terms of the Agreement and by all proceedings, orders and judgments, including, but not limited to, the Release, in the Litigation.

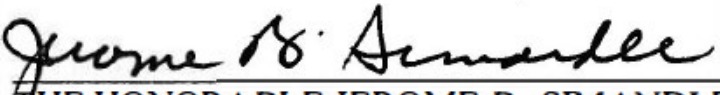
30. Pending final determination of whether the settlement should be approved, neither the Class Representatives nor any Class Member, either directly, representatively, or in any other capacity, shall commence or prosecute against the Released Parties any action or proceeding in any court or tribunal asserting any of the Released Claims.

31. All proceedings in this Litigation with respect to Defendant are hereby stayed and suspended, pending the Final Approval of the Class Settlement, except such proceedings as are provided for in the Agreement, or which may be necessary to implement the terms of the Agreement, the Class, or this Order.

32. Counsel for the Parties are hereby authorized to utilize all reasonable procedures in connection with the administration of the settlement which are not materially inconsistent with either this Order or the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATED: May 25, 2016



THE HONORABLE JEROME B. SIMANDLE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE